

Amendment Dated September 27, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph and header after the title, before the first paragraph [0001] of the application:

Related Applications:

The present application is a national phase application of PCT/FR2005/050175, which in turn claims the benefit of priority from French Patent Application No. 04 50680, filed on April 5, 2004, the entirety of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Field of the Invention:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph [0001]:

[0001] The present invention relates to a method of fabricating polycrystalline silicon plates, in particular plates of small thickness, with at least one of the two faces of each plate having predetermined relief. ~~The relief may be present over the major portion of the face (as occurs with texturing, for example) and/or over a small portion (as occurs with marking a plate or when reinforcing its stiffness by ribs). The method applies most particularly to fabricating solar cells, also known as photovoltaic cells or solarcells.~~

Please add the following new paragraph header after the second paragraph [0001], ending on line 11 of page 1, and before the third paragraph [0002], beginning on line 12 of page 1 of the application:

Background of the Invention:

Please delete paragraph [0008] starting on page 3, line 20 and ending on page 3, line 26.

Amendment Dated September 27, 2006

Please add the following new paragraph and header after paragraph [0012] beginning on page 4, line 34 of the specification as filed and before paragraph [0013] beginning on line 8 of page 5 of the specification as filed:

Objects and Summary of the Invention:

One of the applications of the present invention lies in texturing polycrystalline silicon layers in order to fabricate solar cells, and it is particularly advantageous for layers of small thickness, less than 300 μm . Texturing consists in imparting predetermined relief to the surface of the layer, for example an array of parallel grooves or an array of pyramids.

Please add the following new paragraph header after paragraph [0035] ending on line 30 of page 8 of the specification as filed and before paragraph [0036] starting on line 31 of page 8 of the specification as filed:

Brief Description of the Drawings:

Please add the following new paragraph header after paragraph [0042] ending on line 18 of page 9 of the specification as filed and before paragraph [0043] beginning on line 19 of page 9 of the specification as filed:

Detailed Description